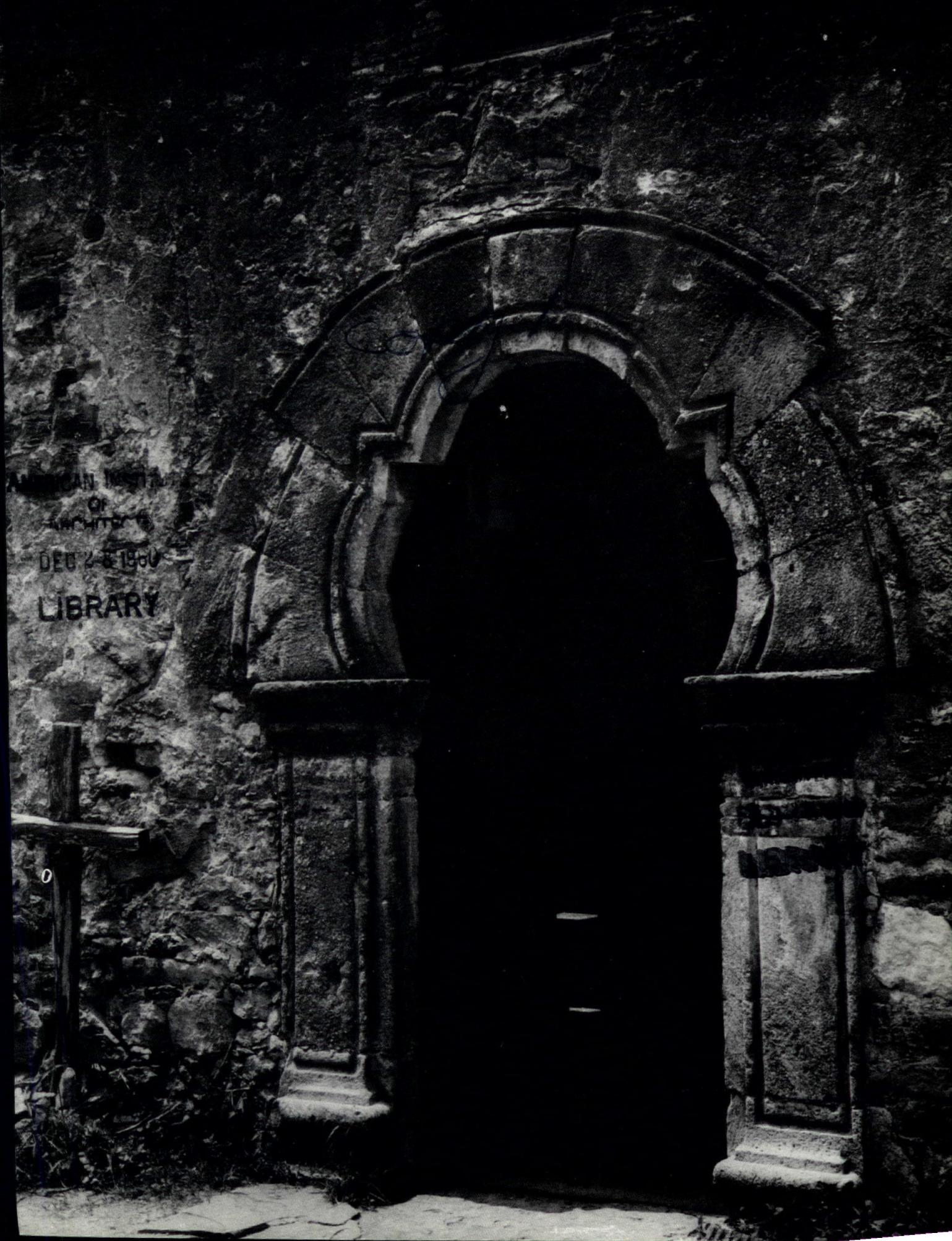
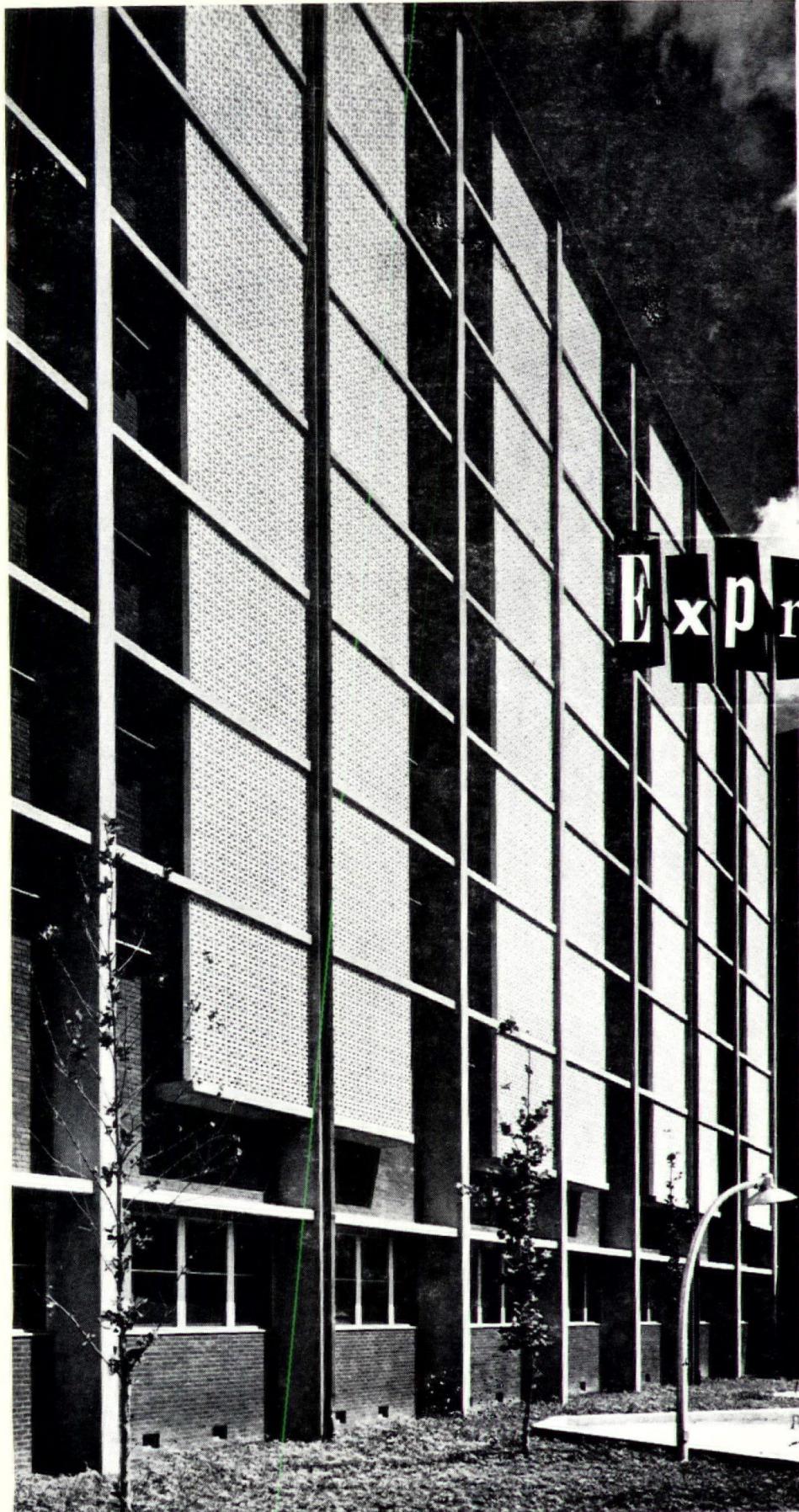


Texas Architect

December 1960





Golden Age Home, San Antonio
Architects: Marmon and Mok
Assoc. Architect: Tommie Thompson

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THE TEXAS ARCHITECT

Vol. II

December, 1960

Number 10

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The Texas Regional Organization of
The American Institute of Architects

Eugene George, Jr. Editor

John G. Flowers, Jr., Managing Editor
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327 Perry-Brooks Building, Austin, Texas

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OUR COVER

Many Texans will recognize the doorway to Espada Mission in San Antonio, but some may not know the significance of the cross beside it. It seems that there was a time of extreme drought. In hope that moisture might again fall, a group of worthy parishioners formed a procession behind this cross in the appeal for life-giving rain. Soon, thereafter, the heavens opened; and a deluge came. Gratefully, the cross was placed by the entrance. The entrance, by the way, was reconstructed sometime in the past—and reconstructed wrongly, so feels Ernest Allen Connally, well known architectural historian. In error though it may be, we thought it symbolic of Christmas, and the religious significance appropriate for this time of year. The cover photo is by Jon Bowman.



The President's Letter

By
AMERICAN INSTITUTE
JACK CORGAN
Of
ARCHITECTS
President

Texas Society of Architects 1960

LIBRARY

We are approaching the season of the year when we all pause to reflect on our activities and to reassess our values. We who have been charged with the responsibility of directing the destinies of the Architectural Profession through the Texas Society of Architects have special cause to feel good for the continued increase in our professional stature.

Throughout the year we have had a great many activities, some sponsored jointly with our most important client groups and some planned and directed within our own organization. Whether jointly or separately, the results have indicated increased vigor and vitality of the Profession.

I am particularly pleased with the results of our El Paso Convention and our program with the Mexican Architects. As A.I.A. President, Philip Will, Jr., expressed it, "The Texas Society of Architects, in providing the leadership in staging this historic meeting, demonstrates once again why it is known as the most progressive Regional organization in the American Institute of Architects."

President-elect L. W. 'Skeet' Pitts is enthusiastically at work on his organizational structure and has some wonderful plans to start off the year, about which you will hear immediately after the January Board Meeting. I know he will have your unqualified support as he has mine, as he strives to create a better professional climate in which to work and live.

To all those who have worked so hard to make my tenure of office a constructive and pleasant one; to the Board whose members contributed so much; to our hard working staff in the Executive office in Austin, I express my sincere appreciation for a job well done, and extend to each of you best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Sincerely,
JACK CORGAN

Historic International Congress In El Paso

An international congress of architects, unique in its concept and historic in impact, was concluded in El Paso, Texas, November 5th. Regarded as one of the profession's most challenging undertakings, the 1960 Annual State Convention of the Texas Society of Architects was unique because it represented the first time architects of two neighboring nations assembled to discuss positive problems designed to study long range development of their border areas.

It was historic because of the signing of the Charter of El Paso, and the actual formation and indoctrination of a joint Border Planning Commission composed of architects of the American Institute of Architects and the Sociedad de Arquitectos Mexicanos.

The Charter is looked upon as a document of such significance as to serve as a model for all nations with common borders, similar geographic and economic conditions, and a fundamental desire for abiding peace and prosperity.

The Charter of El Paso was presented to the convention at the formal banquet which closed the deliberations. With great formality it was adopted and signed by Jack Corgan, FAIA, of Dallas, President of TSA; Philip Will, Jr., FAIA, Chicago, President of AIA; Arq. Luis Gonzales Aparicio, President SAM, and other American and Mexican delegates who had shared in the effort to make the program successful.

A highlight of the convention was an address by the distinguished Lic. Eduardo Bustamante, Secretary of the Patrimonio Nacional and one of Mexico's truly outstanding cabinet ministers. His remarks opened the formal session on an extremely high plane, and the philosophical and historic implications of what the conference was attempting to accomplish became clear to everyone.

Arq. Guillermo Rossell, HFIA, who in addition to his private practice, serves as Under-Secretary of the Patrimonio Nacional, the government agency in charge of all federal properties, delivered the keynote address.

In brilliant, inspiring words, he noted the specific challenges involved in joint planning activities, along with the programs already initiated by the SAM and the Mexican Government.

The seminar which followed featured five brilliant presentations. Arq. Carlos Contreras, HFIA, and Robert E. Alexander, FAIA, of Los Angeles, discussed the architectural aspects of the over-all program. Arq. Hector Mestre, and Charles A. Blessing, AIA, of Detroit, President of the American Institute of Planning, presented the planning details of the entire program.



AIA President Will greets SAM President Gonzales Aparicio at El Paso

A special presentation by Arq. Enrique Castaneda, dealt with specific problems of border city planning. The final session was an open forum for all delegates present to probe into the fine points of the several presentations and to discuss the long range goals of the total program as well as the procedures and methods of accomplishment.

At this session the formal proposal to create the Joint Planning Commission was acted upon. President Will and President Gonzales Aparicio named their delegates on the Commission, and the first organization session was held.

Selected as AIA representatives were Edwin W. Carroll, AIA, of El Paso, and Robert E. Alexander. Arq. Ramon Corona Martin, HFIA, and Arq. Carlos Contreras are the SAM members. Arq. Guillermo Rossell was selected as the first Chairman, and called the initial meeting of the Commission.

The convention attracted more than 200 AIA members and 100 Mexican delegates, about half of whom were members of SAM, the balance representing the Patrimonio Nacional. An additional 300 students, guests and friends also attended.

The Mexican delegation presented to the convention a magnificent show entitled "4000 Years of Mexican Architecture," and they also displayed impressive illustrative materials of their master planning work already accomplished on their border cities.

Governors of the four border states, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and California, all expressed advance interest in this meeting and were officially represented.

Charter of El Paso

WE, the architects of the United States of America and of the Estados Unidos Mexicanos, meeting today, the 4th day of November of the year 1960 in the city of El Paso in the State of Texas, do hereby declare:

1. That we accept the mission and service of our profession as a self-imposed obligation duty that we must fulfill toward our peoples.
2. That we define this mission as the responsibility for preparing a total physical and moral environment in harmony with man's highest needs and aspirations in his community.
3. That we recognize that the technical problems to be solved are common to both nations.
4. That we must work together and exchange constantly and freely our ideas and experiences.
5. That it is impossible to conceive the adequate development of a city without previous analysis and knowledge of its region.
6. That all citizens living along the border dwell in a geographical area with similar characteristics and with common problems of urban production, distribution and consumption.
7. That these common problems deserve and require urgent technical attention to have a harmonious development of our cities and regions.
8. That we agree fully in our objectives in planning and architecture.
9. That we would transform public indifference into civic enthusiasm and isolated activity into coordinated effort.
10. That we propose to create technical border commissions to collaborate with our governments to further the aims of this charter.

With a high spirit of human understanding we, on this 4th day of November, 1960, appeal to architects and all other citizens of the Americas to accept and adopt these principles and ideals and to work with us toward their ultimate fulfillment.

(Approved and signed as "THE CHARTER OF EL PASO," in the city of El Paso, Texas, on the 4th day of November, 1960.)

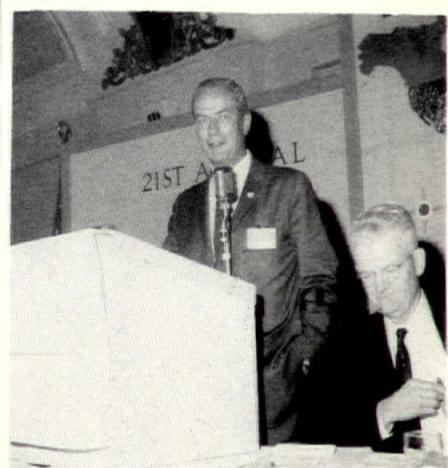
Pres. Jack Corgan opening the historic seminar "Architecture of the Americas."

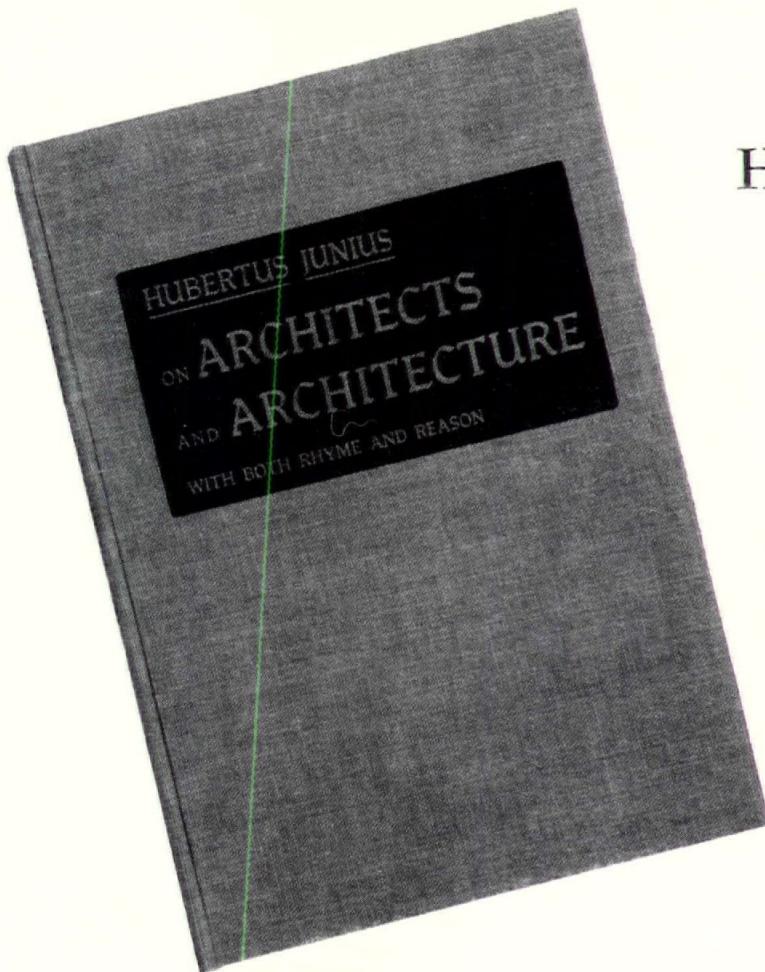


Robert E. Alexander, panel participant, with Walter Rolfe, moderator.



Leaders of the Mexican delegation, left to right, Arq. Rossell, Arq. Gonzales Aparicio, and Lic. Eduardo Bustamante, Secretary, Patrimonio Nacional.





The Works of

HUBERTUS JUNIUS

Presented by

Texas
Architectural
Foundation

"On Architects and Architecture"

"On Architects and Architecture," by Hubertus Junius, is the attractive, hard cover, book published by the Texas Architectural Foundation, which is offered to friends of architecture this month.

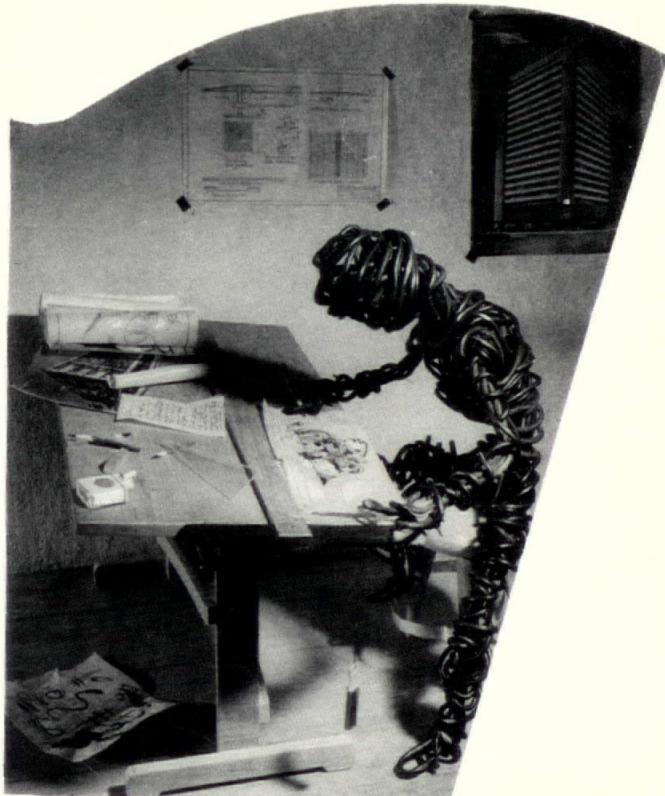
This attractive publication is the collected writings of the late Hubert Hammond Crane, FAIA, of Ft. Worth, whose witty poems and sardonic essays have delighted connoisseurs of sophisticated writing for many years in the pages of the *AIA Journal*.

The officers, directors and trustees of the Texas Architectural Foundation have published this fine book as a memorial to a greatly beloved and respected member of the profession who has had a profound influence on three generations of Architects.

Here for the first time all of the best of Hubert Crane's works published in a high quality limited edition for discriminating collectors. The book is available through the Texas Architectural Foundation, 327 Perry-Brooks Bldg., Austin, Texas, at a cost of \$8.25 per copy, with a fifty cent charge for handling and mailing.

The limited edition copies are numbered prints and make ideal gifts for friends who are interested in architects and architecture, or just fine writing.

Architectural Practices in MEXICO



by

ROBERT ENGELKING

Mr. Engelking, a native Texan, graduated in architecture from the University of Texas, and has spent all his professional life in Mexico.

Almost every architect in Mexico is accustomed and resigned to hearing three prefixes to his name: "Arquitecto _____," "Ingeniero _____," or "Maestro _____." He will answer to any of the three titles. Why not? He will be hearing them as long as he is in the profession.

This confusion of the architect with the engineer and with the master mason is an excellent indication of the evolution of the architect's status in Mexico. It is a carryover in many ways from the early European concept of the architect as a master craftsman who knew more about construction than anyone else in the neighborhood and personally designed, directed, supervised, and built whatever there was to be built in very close administrative contact with the workmen on the job. To this day the Mexican architect is more related to the process of actual construction than is his northern colleague.

As owner's representative, he not only designs the building, but he or his office often also act as paymaster for the workmen. He lets sub-contracts directly, he purchases materials and keeps the job accounts, presentable to the owner, who pays only on receipt of the architect's accounts. He, the architect, can make changes or revisions of the original design on the job, directly and without too much bother, delay and re-writing of contracts and specifications. In effect, the architect often assumes the administrative role of the general contractor, although he is repaid by professional fees and not from the profits derived from a fixed bid. Even on large jobs, it is not uncommon to find that there is not a general contractor set-up, but an architectural administration working with a group of subcontractors, usually men who have collaborated with the architect for many years on previous constructions.

This system has its advantages and its drawbacks. The enormous advantage to the architect, naturally, is the streamlining of the entire process of project preparation. Detail drawings can be simplified and reduced, specifications can be abbreviated to the point of casual description and legal contract procedure can be dispensed with, if there is no general contractor to explain things to, and to end up in a hassle with. Changes in design details do not require a contract revision, if there is no contract. The architect has more freedom of action on the job and maintains a much closer contact with the many phases of the work progress than would be the case if he were limited to the professional role usually assumed by the architect in the United States.

(Please Turn The Page)

His association with the workmen on the jobs is more direct and informal than would be the case where the work is given to a general contractor.

The disadvantages to this system of simplified project preparation and control lies in the fact that the architect tends to oversimplify and slur the drawings to the point where details and finish work suffer in quality. This depends, of course, on the individual architect himself, and on the quality of the work that he proposes to turn out.

From a design standpoint, there is no doubt that the system of architectural administration provides flexibility for new, later ideas and changes which cannot always be foreseen when the project is on the drawing board. There is nothing like waiting until a unit is almost built, in order to be able to visualize as to how to go about the final decoration—it's so much easier that way. Actually, if the owner has the money and acquiescence necessary for such procedure, there is no better way to design than to build the thing along the lines that seem best on paper and then tear down all those parts that aren't pleasing, once they're up, and re-do them according to the realities of a three-dimensional criteria, plus any last-minute inspirations that come to the designer's mind.

I regret to say that this fine old free-wheeling system of construction procedure is slowly being replaced by those mundane practices so often employed in other parts of the world. As architectural offices and building projects get larger, and as the technical complexity of the buildings' components grow more nightmarish, the general-contract system necessarily emerges as the most feasible form of delegation of activities.

Regardless of the administrative system employed, the Mexican architect enjoys a whole series of inestimable advantages that his Yankee colleagues would give their eyeteeth to have:

1. There is an endless variety of available local materials, relatively inexpensive in price, that he can freely incorporate into his designs. Since Mexico is largely a mountainous country, building stone can be obtained in almost any type that could be wished—lava, sandstone, shale, limestone, marble, onyx, granite—all in varied colors and textures. There are at least forty hardwoods to be selected from, at nominal prices. Cast bronze, cast and wrought-iron, copper, brass, hand-blown glass, leather, finish details are easily obtainable, at very low costs, from custom designs made by the architect. A large arts-and-crafts industry provides the designer with hand-woven straw betates, hand-woven textile accessories, hand-carved wood details, tiles and ceramics, stone carving, and a host of other crutches to faltering creativeness. With all these aces up his sleeve, the architect has to try hard to lose.

2. Construction labor costs are low, compared to the United States for instance. An unskilled laborer or peon makes around one dollar a day for an eight-hour

shift; a skilled mason will make one dollar and a half to two dollars a day; a master plasterer will make three dollars a day,—that is, if he's good.

The right-or-wrong aspect of these low wages can certainly be discussed, but the net result of this situation is that the architect can afford to specify many hand-finished details and effects that would be economically impossible in other countries.

3. The climate is good, which means that you don't need to worry about pitched roofs, snow loads, double windows, and all those other grim considerations that must be faced by the northern architect. Expanses of plate glass, interior-exterior space intermingling, water and plant relations—all these tropical tricks can be utilized without unduly disastrous functional objections. Any heating systems that need to be installed are merely symbolic when compared with their Michigan counterparts.

4. Mexico is a land of sharp mountains and deep valleys—this up and down effect forms a wonderful stage setting for any architectural production worthy of the name. Even a hamburger hut looks infinitely better against a background of purple hills, blue sky, fluffy clouds and tall, heavy-leaved trees. You can't lose.

5. And, best of all, the Mexican architect has that priceless item—a clientele that isn't afraid to try out new ideas, designs and effects, on any level of construction. The owner will give the architect a chance to try anything—once. This *carte blanche* makes life worth living.

VIVA MEXICO!

AIA—AGC Agreement

The American Institute of Architects and the Associated General Contractors of America have reaffirmed their traditional views regarding the respective roles of architects and the general contractors in the construction industry.

"Architects and general contractors must work closely together and continue their traditional relationship to meet growing demands for more comprehensive service to the building owner," top officials from the two associations said in a joint statement resulting from a meeting Sept. 27 in Las Vegas, Nevada, in connection with the annual fall meeting of the AIA's Board of Directors.

The AIA's current efforts to explore means by which its members can increase the scope of their service will not affect—and are not intended to affect—the role of the general contractor or the present system of building contract administration, the statement said.

This was the first meeting between these officials since the AIA reorganized many of its administrative procedures to enable the Institute to act more effectively for the architectural profession.

Architecture Students Receive Major Awards

Foundation And Industry Join To Promote Architectural Education

The Texas Architectural Foundation, in conjunction with the TSA Awards and Scholarships Committee, and industries interested in furthering architectural education in Texas has awarded twenty-three scholarships to outstanding and worthy students.

Announcement of the winners was made at the TSA Awards Luncheon during the Society's annual state convention in El Paso, November 3rd. Representing the Foundation was its President, R. Max Brooks, FAIA. Mr. Louis C. Page, Jr., chairman of the TSA Awards and Scholarships Committee assisted Mr. Brooks in making the awards.

Twelve scholarships to students of four Texas colleges were made possible by the generosity of the Featherlight Corporation of Austin. This competition is based on a specific problem developed by a professional advisor from one of the five competing Schools of Architecture in Texas, and is used as a five weeks problem in the spring of fourth year design.

The faculties of each school judge the first, second and third place winners in the respective schools, and these entries are submitted for display at the TSA Convention. From these entries a special jury selects the top three winners.

Awards were made as follows: University of Texas—1st Place, William Michael Lance; 2nd Place, Randolph John Larcade; 3rd Place, William Bauder.

Texas Tech—1st Place, Ory Mason; 2nd Place, Craig Protz; 3rd Place, Frank Jones. A & M College—(three equal awards) Joseph B. Brooks, David E. Woodard



George Bickel, center, representing the Featherlite Corp., greets student winners at El Paso.

and Charles L. Thompson. University of Houston—1st Place, Keitt Barkley; 2nd Place, Allen Rice; 3rd Place, Udomsaki Vijaranakorn.

The fine program of awards sponsored by the Texas Concrete Masonry Association is designed to recognize excellence in design at each School of Architecture in Texas, and is not a competition. One student is honored from each school who, in the judgment of his faculty, has submitted an outstanding problem in the course of his fourth year design work.

Awards were made this year to the three schools which submitted problems: University of Texas, William Michael Lance; A. & M. College, Paul Pate; and Rice University, Robert Freer Mattox.

The Clay Products Association offers an interesting awards program to five Texas Schools and two in Oklahoma, and is not a competition in the ordinary sense. Scholarships are based rather on a faculty judgment of a student in the fourth year design curriculum whose over-all work for the entire year is adjudged most outstanding. Panels presenting the entire year's work are displayed at the annual TSA Convention.

Six awards were made in El Paso as follows: University of Texas, Emil Golla; University of Houston, Keitt Barclay; A. & M. College, Paul Pate; University of Oklahoma, J. B. Harrison; Oklahoma State University, James S. Daley; and Grand Award, Paul Pate.

Two Houston youths were awarded Monarch Tile Scholarships, made possible by the Monarch Tile Mfg. Co., whose sole interest has been to assist outstanding and worthy students pursue their education in architecture.

Applicants must be in their fourth college year in Architecture, must sincerely intend to make the profession of architecture a life endeavor, character and reputation must command respect in their community, achievements must have demonstrated the applicants possess outstanding ability in their chosen work, and they must also have a genuine need for the grant.

The Foundation was extremely pleased to report that Monarch Tile Mfg. Co. officials have been so pleased with the qualified men who have been past recipients of this scholarship that they desired to make an additional grant this year.

Two equal awards were given to Malcolm T. Tengler of Rice Institute, and Walter Scarborough of the University of Texas.

Sidewalk Supervisor by Virginia George

The newly completed Austin office for the Southland Life Insurance Company (Pendley and Day, Architects) features a minimum maintenance exterior exclusively of brick, aluminum, and glass combined with indigenous planting. Additional parking area from a small lot was obtained by elevating the building and excavating the hill side site. To combat highly unstable Del Rio clay, underreamed pier holes were drilled 25 feet deep, below the level of seasonal moisture change. Eight inches of compressible vermiculite separates

pier from wall of pier hole. To prevent cave-ins and to enable periodic investigation of earth movement, a corrugated metal soil retainer ring lines the top two feet of each hole. The building was then made completely independent of the ground by forming a second series of piers, two to eight feet in height, above ground and joining them to the underground piers. Thomas Hinderer was general contractor; the late Worth Cottingham, structural engineer; Bill Walcutt, mechanical engineer; Jean Mather, landscape architect.



A \$7,500,000.00 research community for Texaco, Inc., will spring from a 35 acre tract adjacent to the Texaco refinery in Port Arthur. Its architects, Pitts, Mebane and Phelps, describe the 24 building development as "reflecting a college campus." The first six buildings are currently under construction and include Administrative Building, Industrial Relations Building, Lecture Hall, Library, Lunch Room, and Mechanical Services and Shop Building.

An apartment dweller's utopia is being realized in Wichita Falls by an apartment community by Wingler and Sharp for Mr. James R. Seitz, Jr.—covered parking for two automobiles, abundant storage, extra large rooms, fireplaces, plenty of electric power, kitchen built-ins including dishwashers and disposals and refrigerators, space for washers and dryers, individual central heating and air conditioning, plus individual patios. The cause of privacy is furthered by separating the apartments with either carports or soundproof party walls. Construction is to begin immediately on the first of twelve units on a 17.7 acre tract near Midwestern University. The buildings will range from a ten unit apartment house to individual cottage apartments and will encircle a community outdoor area featuring not only swimming pool but also central locker room and lounge, space for putting, croquet, etc.

Growth of the North Texas State College at Denton is reflected on the drawing boards of Wilson, Patterson, Sowden, Dunlap, and Epperly. A three story, 90,150 square feet reinforced concrete building for the School of Business Administration has just been completed; four-fifths completed are a two story, 78,900 square feet Education and Home Economics Building and a three story, 52,900 square feet building for the School of Music. Total cost of these improvements is \$3,250,000.

Finding itself with a satisfactory number of neighborhood recreational facilities but no regional ones, the City of Houston is building a theater-gymnasium center downtown at the junction of Sabine Street and Memorial Drive. The completely air conditioned gymnasium contains two regulation basketball courts, which can be separated by a folding partition for dual use. A folding stage can convert the space into a theater. Provisions for fixed as well as movable bleachers provide seating capacity for 3500 persons. In addition the structure's 25,089 square feet will house a library, kitchen, game room, craftsroom, and shuffleboard courts. The new recreational center is part of Houston's rapidly developing civic center and, now 98% completed, is the first of an originally proposed three such regional recreational buildings for the city. Its architects, MacKie and Kamrath, have designed it of reinforced concrete and steel frame, brick exterior walls, glazed structural tile, plywood and brick interior partitions, exterior canopies of stucco with aluminum trim. Site conditions involving a ten feet fill necessitated use of a structural floor slab.

A shopping center for Wedgewood Enterprises, Inc., has been designed by Ft. Worth architects Kneer and Hamm and is rising in the rapidly expanding southwest area of that city. The first component, already completed, is the Wedgewood Bowl. Currently under construction is a 70,000 square feet second unit. It is designed to accommodate small and large stores with each having its own individually treated store front. A third unit with 50,000 square feet will be added later.

The Brownsville Historical Society, with A. H. Wooldridge as consultant, is currently restoring the Charles Stillman home for use as a historical museum. Erected in 1850 for Mr. Stillman, the founder of Brownsville, the museum is to be open by the first of 1961. Members of the Stillman family have contributed, besides the house itself, priceless furnishings for a bedroom, the living room, and the dining room. The search for original furnishings has extended to New England. Draperies and floor coverings were especially woven to exactly reproduce original materials and patterns.

San Antonio's new Trinity Baptist Church, designed by Bartlett Cocke, offers seating for 1750 worshippers. Of colonial design, the sanctuary features a 150' lighted steeple with sixteen golden bells, an entrance with ten massive columns and a two level fountain.

Abilene architects Tittle and Luther are utilizing pre-cast "tilt-up concrete" panels poured and finished on jobsite for the Robert E. Lee Elementary School, for which contracts were awarded in September. They have found this method less than half the cost of conventional masonry exterior walls in the locale. The panels are six inches thick by nine inches high and vary in length from ten to thirty feet. Some of the panels have a monolithic terrazzo topping — with this type of precasting, both faces of the panels can be finished.

The Houston Negro Hospital is building a 79 room addition which will increase its patient capacity by 150 beds. Designed by Maurice J. Sullivan and Charles F. Sullivan, the one story structure foresees future expansion by a possible addition of a second story to the nursing wing. Cost of the addition is \$1,300,000.

Improved newspaper services for the citizens of Odessa are reflected in the 16,980 square feet addition to the Odessa American Newspaper Plant of V. L. Debolt, publisher. Peters and Fields, architects, note that the addition houses a new press, which will have eight units, two double folders, flexible color cylinders, and it will be capable of printing 40,000 64-page newspapers in an hour. The use of polyester glaze in the printing area to facilitate maintenance is an interesting material usage. The job was somewhat delayed because of a fire during construction, and it was completed in October.

Just started in El Paso is the largest building in the midwest. Created by George L. Dahl, with Carroll and Dauble as associate architects, this nineteen floor, 634,536 square feet structure will house the El Paso National Bank (160,159), a garage (201,141), and offices (273,236). Its steel frame will be wrapped in a curtain wall of brown tinted glass and bronze colored porcelain panels, also precast aggregate panels and brick. Gold glass mosaics will incase eight drive-in teller booths. An interesting use of material is that of placing onyx in frames to serve as a glazing for exterior wall surfaces. The fact that Southern Pacific tracks run under part of the building demanded special structural considerations. All base columns are set on vibration dampers. That portion of the structure directly spanning the trainway rests on springs and accoustical sound absorptive materials.

By the end of February, 1963, Dallas will have a new \$9,000,000, 504 bed hospital. Roscoe DeWitt, architect for St. Paul Hospital, notes that the hill side site of the new hospital enables separation of visitor, ambulance, and service traffic.

St. Anthony's Hospital celebrated sixty years of service to the Amarillo area by completing a \$2,500,000.00 addition which provides space for 140 beds and other hospital services. Among its interesting features: self help bedside units which provide continuous hand support from bed to bath; short viewing corridor in nurseries to permit all a 'front row' vantage point and keep work corridors uncrowded; diagonal placement of beds in semi-private rooms to give both occupants equal enjoyment of windows; full length accordian doors to make semi-private rooms into two private sections at will. O'Connell and Probst of Austin are the architects. (Note of interest: one of the four Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word who came as the first staff in 1901 is still at the hospital.)

By January, 1961, Garland will have a Community and Recreation Building designed by Fisher and Jarvis. The \$250,000 structure of concrete, brick, and gray glass will feature a multi-purpose room large enough for two practice basketball courts, automobile displays, community activities. It utilizes a series of three hinged precast concrete arches with a span of 150 feet.

In the almost completed studio and administrative offices for KFDM-TV, Beaumont, architects Ingram and Harris have utilized two different methods of construction. The studio and control room are housed in a structure of reinforced concrete columns, precast concrete beams and joists, and concrete block filler walls. It is separated from the low steel frame building which surrounds it on the front and one side by a forty feet wide patio. This patio will be developed into a garden having Japanese overtones and will be utilized as an outdoor studio.

Fort Worth's fast growing elementary school population is reflected in Woltz and Lane's addition to the Bruce C. Shulkey Elementary School. Originally designed with all facilities and fourteen classrooms three years ago, the school found its community increased so rapidly that seven temporary rooms had to be added after the first semester. This number has grown to sixteen, of which four will continue in use after the new twelve room addition has been completed.

The Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas has more than redoubled its floor space with an addition by Grayson Gill, Inc., who also totally remodeled the old interiors. "There are two exceptionally large vaults which were fully air conditioned with self contained systems and a very interesting excavation and retaining wall problem in connection with the three basements in the new structure," Mr. Gill writes. Also of interest were the coordination of construction schedules to take care of seasonal needs to heat or cool the building in operation, the moving of the tenants into the new building, and the final completion and remodeling of the old building.

Douglas Steinman, Jr., of Beaumont reports a soil transfusion has saved approximately \$50,000 by eliminating necessity for a structural floor system. In the process, 7000 cubic yards of highly plastic indigenous soil were removed and replaced. The building under construction is the Central Catholic High School. It's 60,000 square feet will be completed by July, 1961, and will provide twenty classrooms, cafeteria, and gymnasium-auditorium.

A new men's and a new women's dormitory for Stephen F. Austin State College at Nacogdoches will each provide 52 double rooms ready for occupancy in July, 1961. The three story structures are 40' 8" x 139' 4" and will cost \$617,658. A dresser bar will separate the study area from the sleeping-dressing area. Each room will have its own lavatory and separate summer-winter air handling unit. To eliminate motor trouble, vibration, and noise, high pressure ducts will carry hot or chilled water from a central system. Architect Wilbur Kent describes the location as "one of the most beautifully treed sites in the state" and notes that the new dormitories are so situated as to form a quadrangle with existing dormitories. They are part of a long range housing program for the college.

Two junior high schools for Abilene by Boone and Pope are currently under construction. Each will contain 101,342 square feet and cost \$1,107,905.

The Editors welcome news items from all architects for publication in this special feature which will appear as often as sufficient material is available. Send news items to Texas Architect, 327 Perry-Brooks Building, Austin, Texas.



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AIA Executive Director Retires

Edmund Randolph Purves, FAIA, Executive Director of The American Institute of Architects since 1949 and a member of the Institute staff since 1941, has resigned as staff chief of the national professional society effective Dec. 31. He will be succeeded by William H. Scheick, AIA, vice president of the Timber Engineering Co., and former Executive Director of the Building Research Institute, National Academy of Sciences. The resignation and appointment occurred at a Sept. 30 meeting of the AIA Board of Directors in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Mr. Purves' contract as Executive Director expires at the end of 1960 and he had notified the Board more than a year ago that he wished to leave the post no later than January, 1962. A search for a successor was instituted by the Board at that time. Between Nov. 15, when he joins the Institute staff, and January 1, 1961, Mr. Scheick will hold the title of Managing Director.

AIA President Philip Will, Jr., FAIA, announced that, notwithstanding the resignation, "the Board has prevailed upon Mr. Purves to accept a new contract for 1961 in which he will bear the title Consulting Director and discharge an assignment which needs his demonstrated leadership, wisdom, and great prestige."

Honorary Fellowships Awarded

The American Institute of Architects bestowed Honorary Fellowships on Arq. Guillermo Rossell, Under Secretary of the Ministerio Patrimonio Nacional of the Republic of Mexico, the agency in charge of all federal properties, and Arq. Ramon Corona Martin, Chairman of the International Affairs Committee of the Mexican Society of Architects, at the TSA November convention in El Paso, Texas.

In bestowing Honorary Fellowship on Rossell and Martin, Philip Will, Jr., President of the AIA, said, "We have so honored a relatively small number of outstanding architects in all parts of the world . . . Thus, in honoring you now by bestowing upon you the Fellowship Medal of The American Institute of Architects, we, the Architects of the United States, honor ourselves."

Kamrath On Panel

Karl Kamrath, F.A.I.A., of MACKIE AND KAMRATH, architects, was the visiting architect at the 3rd annual architects workshop on office practice at Kansas State University at Manhattan, Kansas, December 1-4. He was chairman of a panel of distinguished architects who discussed the programming of architectural commissions. Practicing Kansas architects attended along with students of the Kansas State University School of Architecture.



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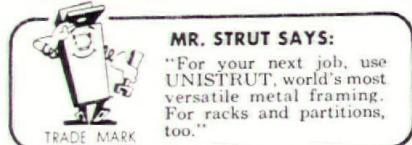
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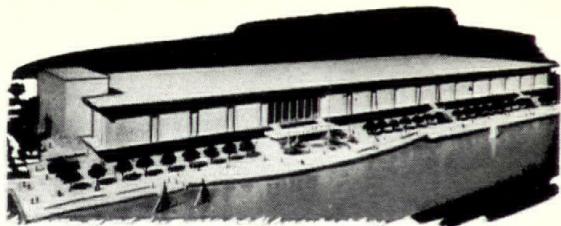
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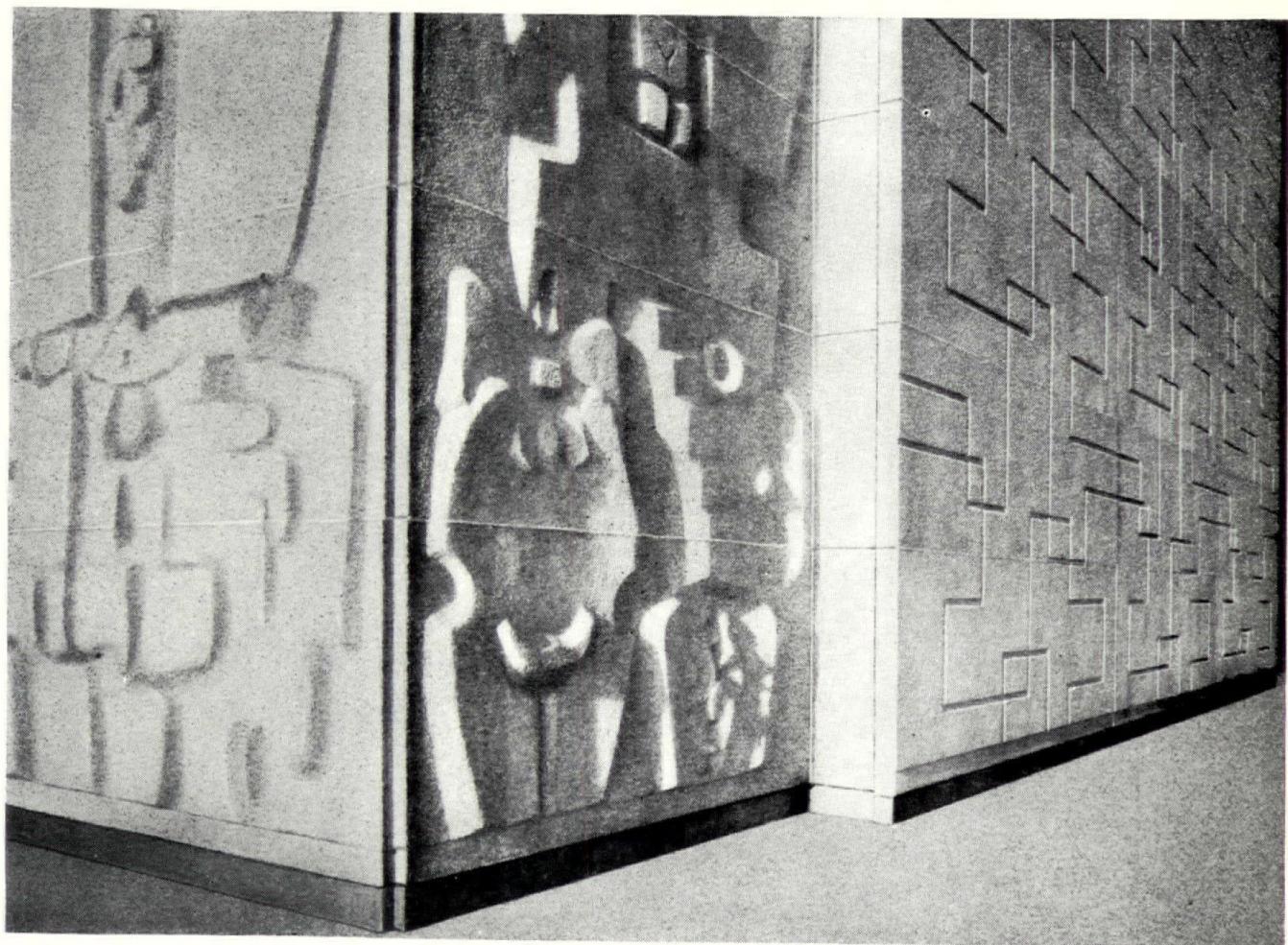
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CURTAIN WALLS

of McCormick Place—new \$34,000,000 exposition center on Chicago's lakefront—were made of Trinity White portland cement and exposed white aggregate



(Top) Model of McCormick Place as seen from Lake Michigan. (Above) Close-up of the sculptured concrete panels

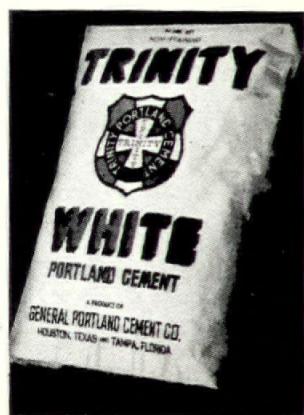
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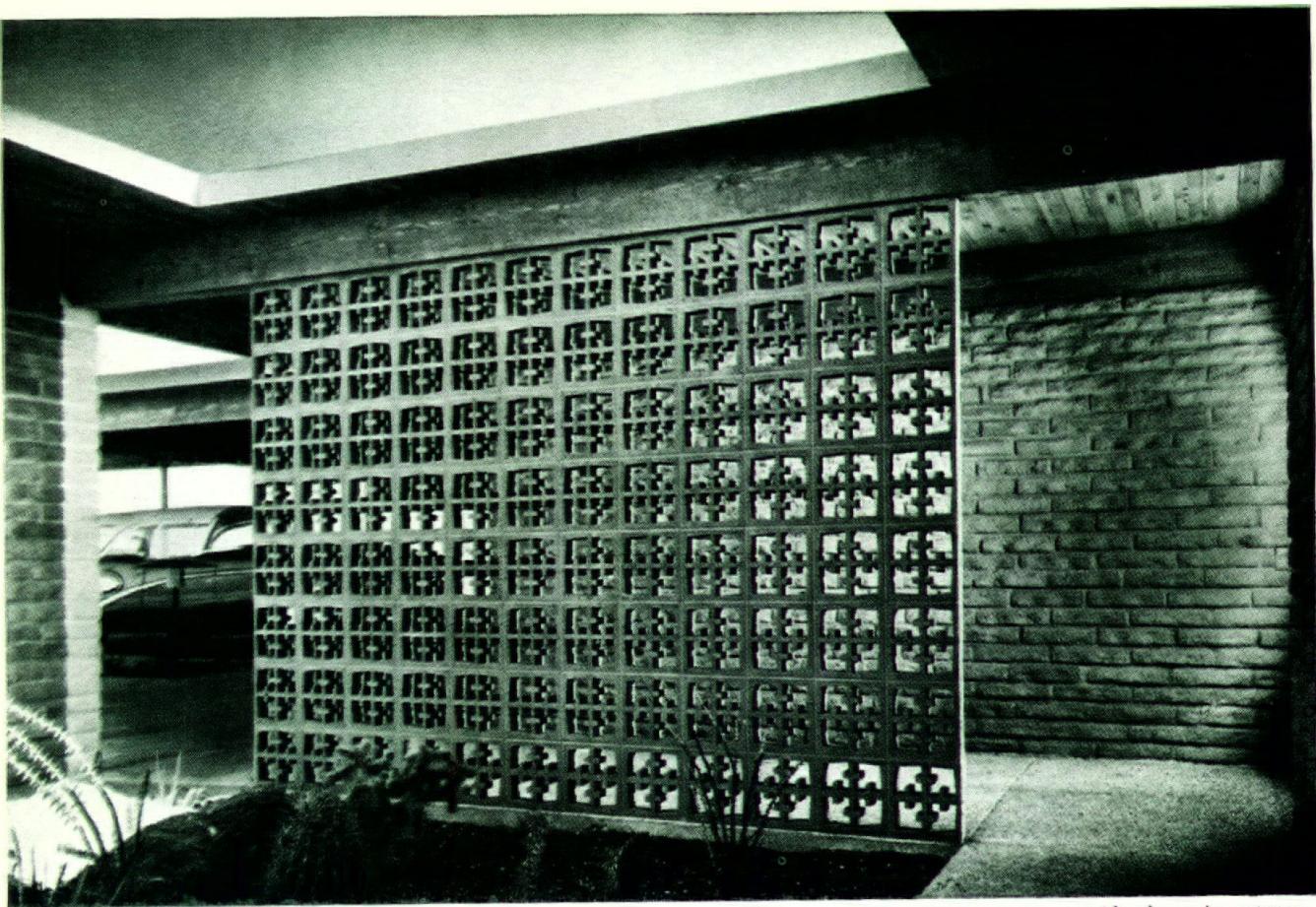
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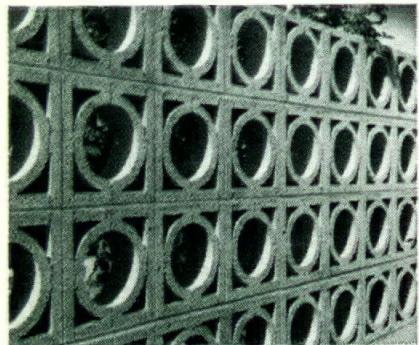
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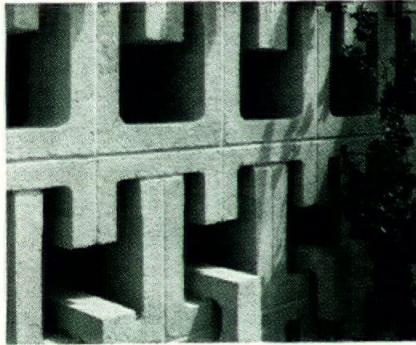
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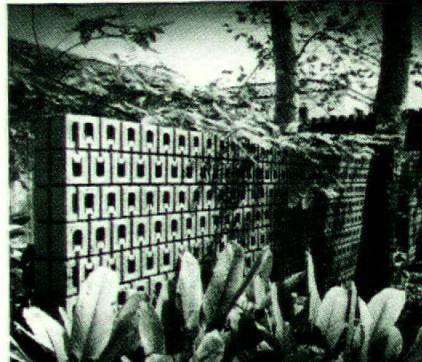
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Concrete grille block garden wall with novel geometric design



Close-up of decorative grille block used for intriguing wall pattern



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